



OCT 17 2017

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN 027-17

October 16, 2017

Vessel Advance Notice of Arrival (NOA) Requirements for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands

Due to the devastation caused by Hurricane Maria throughout the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands, vessels across the nation have offered to participate in relief efforts. While these vessels are able to transport essential cargo and supplies needed for recovery, the sheer number and size of vessels entering the islands have led to congestion and logistical issues which may result in the delay of recovery activities.

In an effort to mitigate this issue, owner/operators of vessels or vessels contracted by third party agencies (including government agencies) are strongly encouraged to liaise with their agent well in advance of their vessel's port arrival to ensure a NOA has been submitted as outlined in Title 33, Code of Federal Regulations, 160 Subpart C. Submittal of NOAs will ensure vessel agents have the necessary time to arrange logistics, ensure the availability of appropriate dock/pier space which is in critical demand, and follow-on distribution/transportation of relief supplies. Failure to submit a timely NOA and confirm availability of dock/pier space in advance may result in delays to vessel operations. For more information on NOAs visit www.nvmc.uscg.gov or contact the National Vessel Movement Center at (800) 708-9823. Submit NOAs to enoad@nvmc.uscg.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact my staff at the above listed telephone number or email D07-SMB-HurricaneReliefVessels@uscg.mil.

Sincerely,

A blue ink signature, appearing to be "P. J. Brown", written over a horizontal line.

P. J. BROWN
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard
Commander, Seventh District

